



NEWS FROM NOAA

NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION • US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 10, 2006

COMMERCE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES PACIFIC AND WESTERN PACIFIC COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

The Commerce Department today announced the appointment of members to the Pacific and Western Pacific councils. The appointments include one seat on the Pacific Council held exclusively by a representative of an American Indian tribe with federally recognized fishing rights from the states of California, Oregon, Washington, or Idaho, and one appointment of a member to Hawaii's obligatory seat on the Western Pacific Council.

The department announced new council appointments on June 29, 2006. However, these two appointments were deferred until the state of Hawaii and the Makah Tribal Council submitted complete nomination packages for consideration.

PACIFIC COUNCIL

Obligatory Seat: David B. Sones – Tribal representative, Makah Tribal Council, Washington

WESTERN PACIFIC COUNCIL

Obligatory Seat: Sean C. Martin – Hawaii

"Council members provide a valuable service to their communities and the nation by bringing their unique experience and ideas to the table as we continue to rebuild our fisheries and manage them for long-term sustainable use," said Bill Hogarth, director of NOAA Fisheries Service. "I welcome Mr. Sones and Mr. Martin to the council process, and I look forward to working with them."

The eight regional fishery management councils, established by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act in 1976, prepare fishery management plans for their respective geographical areas of responsibility. The councils submit these plans to NOAA Fisheries Service for review and approval by the Secretary of Commerce.

Council members represent diverse interests, including commercial and recreational fisheries, as well as environmental, academic and other interests from each geographic area. The Secretary appoints a total of 72 obligatory and at-large members to the eight regional councils. Council members are appointed for three-year terms, and may be reappointed to serve up to three consecutive terms. Approximately one-third of the terms expire annually.

NOAA Fisheries Service is dedicated to protecting and preserving our nation's living marine resources and their habitat through scientific research, management and enforcement. NOAA Fisheries Service provides effective stewardship of these resources for the benefit of the nation, supporting coastal communities that depend upon them, and helping to provide safe and healthy seafood to consumers and recreational opportunities for the American public.

In 2007 NOAA, an agency of the U.S. Commerce Department, celebrates 200 years of science and service to the nation. Starting with the establishment of the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey in 1807 by Thomas Jefferson much of America's scientific heritage is rooted in NOAA. The agency is dedicated to enhancing economic security and national safety through the prediction and research of weather and climate-related events and information service delivery for transportation, and by providing environmental stewardship of our nation's coastal and

marine resources. Through the emerging Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS), NOAA is working with its federal partners, more than 60 countries and the European Commission to develop a global monitoring network that is as integrated as the planet it observes, predicts, and protects.

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